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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Mercuri *et al.*

SERIAL NO: 09/871,243

: ART UNIT: 1774

FILED: May 5, 2001

: EXAMINER: Nguyen, K.

FOR: Method for Preparing Composite Flexible
Graphite Material

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

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Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
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TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON D.C. 20231 ON THIS 21st DAY OF January 2003.
BY: Camie A. McPherson

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2002, designated paper number 5,
please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 6 and 14-27 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 3-5, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 as follows:

1. (amended) A material useful as a substrate for an embossed flexible graphite sheet, the material comprising a composite flexible graphite sheet comprising a plurality of zones of flexible graphite sheet, wherein:
at least one of said plurality of zones has a characteristic different from at least one other of said plurality of zones, wherein the difference in the characteristic is greater than about 5%.
3. (amended) The material of claim 1 wherein the characteristic is one selected from the group consisting of: electrical conductivity, thermal conductivity, density, void condition, area weight, gas permeability, water permeability, particle size, type of graphite starting material, presence and composition of filler materials, degree of graphite intumescence,